[Shri A. J. John]

water supply and sanitation projects, drilling of 60 tube wells in the coastal areas and the provision of 5 pipe water installations. Of these the 4 water supply and sanitation projects were started and they are making good progress. The completion of these 4 projects, the provision of 11 rural water supply installations and the construction of 140 tube wells are scheduled for the Second Five Year Plan, at a financial outlay of Rs. 78.71 lakhs.

The construction of a District Public Health Laboratory at Ernakulam, sinking of new Draw wells, construction of additional wards in the Maternity and Child Health centres, improvements of the Filariasis laboratory at Sherthala, the opening of a school for the training of Health Visitors, the construction of tube wells and the provision of protected water supply to Perumbavoor are some of the numerous items included for the next year in the Public Health budget.

WAYS AND MEANS

24. In the foregoing account I have touched only on the more important activities and that, only of a few departments, to which I wanted to invite the particular attention of the Hon'ble Members. In fact, provision has been made in almost all departments for enlarging their activities on an unprecedented scale.

I shall now conclude after indicating how it is proposed to find the required funds for our huge expenditure programme for the ensuing year. Over and above our revenue collections our requirements are:—

		Rs. in lakhs
(a)	To meet the revenue deficit ..	308.48
(b)	To meet the Capital expenditure ..	940.23
(c)	To provide a Working cash balance in the Treasuries and Banks ..	193.95
	Total ..	1442.66

Taking into account the estimated opening cash balance of Rs. 197.08 lakhs and the net incomings of Rs. 245.81 lakhs under Debt Heads, there will still be a deficit of about Rs. 1,000 lakhs. This deficit is proposed to be met partly by raising a public loan of Rs. 200 lakhs in the open market and by withdrawal of investments to the extent of Rs. 100 lakhs. The deficit of Rs. 700 lakhs still left has been assumed as loan

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assistance from the Government of India towards development schemes for which the pattern of assistance has not yet been settled.

THE SERVICES

25. Before concluding I would like to add a word about the Services. Government are fully alive to the fact that a contented Civil Service is the backbone of an efficient administration. They have therefore given the most sympathetic consideration to the needs of the Government servants.

As announced in the Finance Minister's speech presenting the budget for 1955-56, a Pay Commission was appointed during the year. The report of the Commission was carefully considered by Government and orders were passed accepting almost all the recommendations of the Commission. The new scales of pay sanctioned on the basis of the report of the Commission have been given effect to from 1st April 1955.

Under the orders now issued the minimum emoluments of a full time employee in State service has been fixed as Rs. 50|- (Rs. 25 as pay and Rs. 25 as dearness allowance), by raising the lowest rate of dearness allowance from Rs. 22 to Rs. 25.

The scales of pay of departmental teachers have to a large extent been made applicable to teachers in private service. The rates of dearness allowance applicable to Government servants have been extended to these teachers.

The additional average cost on account of the revision of pay scales of the Government officers both in the Gazetted and the Non-Gazetted cadres given effect to from 1st April 1955 comes to Rs. 174.9 lakhs per annum and the cost on account of the revision of the rates of pay and dearness allowance of private school teachers to Rs. 85.9 lakhs. The total average cost comes to Rs. 260.8 lakhs per year though the immediate cost may not be so high.

CONCLUSION

26. In surveying our achievements of the past we have found some ground for satisfaction. I do not forget that much more remains to be done. Conditions are favourable for further progress in the year ahead. I feel confident that with the experience which we have gained in the past, we can look forward to the future with optimism. Let me now conclude with an earnest appeal to all sections of the House to work together for fostering the prosperity of the State, so that we may keep in step with the rest of the country in fulfilling the great task which is before us.

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